



TV

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

UN IN ACTION

Release Date: July 2008

Programme No. 1141

Duration: 4'02"

Languages: English, French, Spanish, Russian

MEXICANS COPE WITH INFLATION

VIDEO

AUDIO

NARRATION

PROTESTS/HAITI (MIXED WITH
MUSIC/SOUND)

Chaos in Haiti... (1.33")

Protests in Senegal... (1.5")

Turmoil in Somalia.... (1.45")

MEXICO MARKET/GAS STATION

Everywhere people have been hit by spiraling prices of oil and food – and the most affected are the poor. (7")

ANGELA'S FAMILY

With high prices and severe drought, a major crisis is brewing in Mexico. (4.4")

ANGELA'S FAMILY

There are some six million poor people in Mexico who can barely afford to eat regular meals. The price of corn – their staple food – has more than doubled. (9.5")

MARKET/CORN

ANGELA: (Spanish) **F**

ANGELA ON CAMERA

"It used to be six dollars for 50 kilos six years ago. Then it went up by one dollar each year. For the past two years, it has been at 18 dollars."
(15")

ANGELA GRINDING CORN	<u>NARRATION</u> Angela Lopez and her husband Miguel, live in Tulapa. (3")
MIGUEL LOOKS ON WHILE ANGELA BAKES TORTILLA	Since Miguel no longer works, Angela is the only breadwinner. She works part time as a mid-wife and makes barely enough money to buy food for the family. (9")
GARDEN PLOT	Now the Lopez's are planting a small garden to help feed themselves. But that too is proving to be a struggle. (7")
BARREN LAND/CACTUS	Water has always been difficult to come by. And the on-going drought has left the land barren making it more difficult to farm. (7")
ANGELA ON CAMERA	<u>ANGELA:</u> (Spanish) F <i>"It doesn't rain a lot. Some years, there is nothing to harvest, nothing to produce. Last year, we reaped 50 kilos of corn for the entire harvest."</i> (11")
ANGELA FEEDING GOATS	<u>NARRATION</u> Fifty kilos will only feed Angela's family for eight days. When it gets tough, Angela must sell one of her precious goats to buy more corn. (8.5")
CISTERNS	The water crisis has prompted the government to step in. With help from the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization, cisterns have been installed to help farmers secure enough water to
PROMENADE/ACATLAN	

grow the food that they need. Assisting with the project is Jonathan Martinez. (16.2”)

JONATHAN ON CAMERA

MARTINEZ: (Spanish) **M**

“The government has a crucial role to play, and that is to work with the poor in order to eliminate poverty.” (8.5”)

CORN FIELDS
OR SELLING CORN
GAS STATION

NARRATION

The tough times in this part of Mexico have sent as many as half a million people to the United States looking for work – most of them farmers, like Javier Flores. (11”)

JAVIER ON CAMERA

JAVIER: (English) **M**

“I was so poor. I had nothing in my country. I had no house, no land, nothing. There were days when we didn’t eat anything.” (8”)

FARMING

NARRATION

Now he is back, he has formed a cooperative with his brother and 20 other men. Although they still live in poverty, they are harvesting corn all year round. (8.45”)

FARMING

Despite a better harvest, farmers are still hampered by rising prices. (3.75”)

JAVIER ON CAMERA

JAVIER: (English) **M**

“The fuel is so expensive and everything goes up. Prices are almost unreachable.” (4.2”)

NARRATION

NICE MARKET SHOTS
PEOPLE EXCHANGING MONEY
FOR FOOD

Most blame rising costs on oil prices and the use of corn for bio-fuels. To ease the stress, the government has declared a freeze on food prices and has subsidized the price of petrol for several months. (10.8")

MARKET

UN LOGO

This report was prepared by Mary Ferreira for the United Nations. (4")